

I. Listing of Claims

Please amend the Claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A seat belt retractor for a seat belt including a pretensioner, especially for use in motor vehicles, comprising: a belt retractor housing, a belt spool rotatably mounted to the housing and attached to a safety belt, the belt spool being configured to rotate in a retraction direction of the safety belt when a gas generator, coupled to the belt spool by a tube, is activated, wherein

the belt spool is attached to a drivewheel with recesses on the periphery thereof for accepting mass bodies configured as a drive means for pretensioning the safety belt, the mass bodies being stored in the tube and arranged to tangentially flow into the drivewheel, the mass bodies being accelerated in the tube by means of the gas generator arranged at one end of the tube, and

the tube includes at least one straight section that stores at least a portion of the mass bodies, the at least one straight section extending in a parallel direction to an axis of rotation of the belt spool between opposing housing sides of the belt retractor housing, and further including an end section running in a plane of the drivewheel, and wherein the tube is configured in a U-shape comprising two straight sections located between the opposing housing sides of the belt retractor housing with one bent section running in the plane of the housing side that is opposite the drivewheel.

2. (Previously Presented) A seat belt retractor according to claim 1, wherein the tube for the belt retractor housing includes one of a circular, a square and a rectangular cross section and is arranged in an outer corner of the belt retractor

housing, the end section of the tube being attached by a bend to the straight section between the housing sides and guided to the drivewheel.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A seat belt retractor according to claim [[3]] 1, wherein the two straight sections of the tube are arranged in two adjacent outer corner regions of the belt retractor housing.

5. (Currently Amended) A seat belt retractor according to claim [[3]] 1, wherein a receptacle for accepting the mass bodies passing through and exiting the drivewheel is arranged between opposing straight sections of the tube.

6. (Previously Presented) A seat belt retractor according to claim 1, wherein a feeding element configured to feed the mass bodies into the recesses of the drivewheel through the end section of the tube is arranged on the open end of the end section in a tangential direction to the drivewheel.

7. (Previously Presented) A seat belt retractor according to claim 1, wherein the end section running in a tangential direction to the drivewheel includes a deformation in a wall of the end section, the deformation being configured with a radius such that the mass bodies are driven through the end section and run across the wall of the end section via the deformation and are fed into the recesses of the drivewheel.